

SPECIAL FEATURES: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF STUNT

# WESLEYAN

*Magazine*

VOLUME XXVI, NUMBER 1 • SPRING 1996

• **EDUCATION**

A master's degree and an interactive computer linkage for Wesleyan

• **SCIENCE**

Professors and students work together on genetics research

• **THE ARTS**

Campus and community team up

EDUCATION  
&  
Experiment



## From the [new] editor

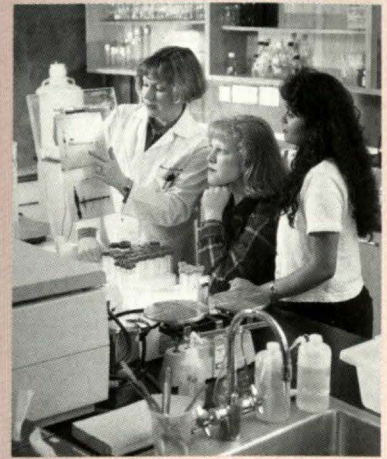
**W**hen I first arrived on the Wesleyan campus in January, I detected a spirit of excitement within the academic community here. Students had just returned from the Christmas break, to the fresh challenge of a second semester. Professors were eager to discuss their latest research. Members of the four classes (as well as faculty) were diligently preparing their acts for STUNT, a century-old tradition. Administrators and trustees proudly pointed out new developments: the college's first master's degree, a beautiful new athletics facility, a scholarship competition attracting top high school seniors from around the country.

Having recently come from a large research university, I was prepared to expect a more relaxed pace, a less challenging environment. Not so. Big things are happening at Wesleyan. And while they are of course not happening in the sheer volume that they are at the universities, they are happening in remarkable proportion, for a school of Wesleyan's size.

I'm pleased to be here in the midst of such energy. I'm also pleased to pass along to you, in this issue of Wesleyan Magazine, some of what the Wesleyan community has shared with me. As I learn more about the college's past history, present projects, and future plans, I'll bring these stories your way. In the meantime, send your news and views. We'll be happy to hear them.

BARBARA A. BRANNON

## ON THE COVER



Biology professor Wanda Schroeder works with students Dhalia Wharton and Evelyn Rawcliffe in Wesleyan's new genetics laboratory.

## WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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Panaprint, Macon, Georgia

## PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

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Ken Krakow: pages 2, 7, 9, 16, 18, 20, 21, back cover; Steve Schroeder: front cover, pages 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15; Wanda Schroeder, page 15 (top).

Wesleyan Magazine is published twice yearly by the Wesleyan College Office of Public Relations and Publications, 4760 Forsyth Road, Macon, Georgia 31297. Contents may be reprinted with permission of the editor.

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# WESLEYAN

## *Magazine*

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## Phase I of Mathews Center nearing completion

ON THE FAR EDGE of the Wesleyan campus beyond the lake these days, valleys are being exalted and rough places are being made plain. The long-prophesied event that is coming to pass here is the construction of the first stage of the Mathews Athletic Center, the \$1.5 million multi-sport complex funded by the George Mathews family in memory of the late Mary Ann Mathews Pease '44.

"Do you see the low, flat area right over there?" asked contractor Roy Fickling,

Jr., a member of the Wesleyan board of associates, on a recent visit to the site. "That started out to be a hill almost as tall as the tops of those trees—but now it's a soccer field." Along with the soccer field, Phase I of the project includes a softball field, tennis courts, security lighting, and an access road and parking lot.

The "dirt work," as subcontractor and Wesleyan trustee Chris Sheridan describes it, has been under way since December 1995 and was 40% complete as of the end of February. Though a few weeks of bad weather held up progress during January, work is back on schedule. "We expect to have people kicking soccer balls down there when school starts this fall," said Fickling.

This early stage of the project, involving clearing and grading the site and constructing a drainage system, is an extensive undertaking, though most of it isn't highly visible. Jim Hawkins, president of Dirt Services, Inc., which is handling the earth-moving work, explained the

process. "First, we had to clear the site of trees and debris. Nine of the 18 acres were already clear, so we didn't have to sacrifice many trees. But there is a good deal of old fill material that we're having to move to another part of the site, to level out the elevations and install drainage."

The dirt-moving is no small task: some 40,000 cubic yards of soil will have been shifted around by the time the preparation is complete. An extensive system of pipes and drains underlies the entire area, serving to channel water off the playing fields and into a retention pond that is being built at the lower edge of the site. In addition, an access road has been cut.

"There will be access from Forsyth Road as well as from the campus," said Hawkins. "The main access road will share an entrance with the Equestrian Center, but it will branch off behind the horse barns and come into the site between the barns and the Bradley House." The other road will connect to the existing lake circle and will link into the parking lot below the Hightower residence hall.

The contractors hope to have the site smoothed out and ready for grass seeding and tennis court construction by the end of April. The grass, of course, must have some time to take firm root on the fields before they will be ready for the heavy-duty use that softball and soccer will inflict. In the meantime, the college's inaugural softball season will be played on the fields at Tattnall Square Academy a short distance away. Athletic director Lori Mazza has been "eagerly awaiting the growth of Division III athletics here" and is happy to see Wesleyan's commitment to the project coming to fruition.

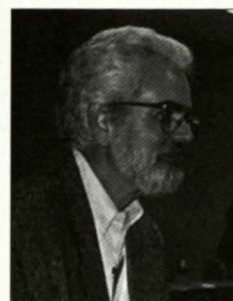
Though the completion of Phase II, which includes a fieldhouse, outdoor swimming pool, and more tennis courts, is still several years away, it is fitting that Wesleyan's first games on its new facilities will take place within the year the Olympics come to Georgia. **W**



Trustee Chris Sheridan (left) and board of associates member Roy Fickling Jr. (right): "We expect to see people kicking soccer balls down there when school starts this fall."

## Trustees retreat "a moment of transformation"

"The ideas were flying fast and furious," said Macon attorney Tom Bass, one of 20



Dr. Thomas P. Holland

Wesleyan trustees who participated in a board retreat Feb. 14 and 15 at Callaway Gardens. "It was a jam-packed 24 hours—but it proved to be one of the

most stimulating activities we've ever undertaken." Trustees, administrators, and spouses gathered to identify ways Wesleyan's board could work most effectively—by identifying constituencies, setting goals, and outlining specific charges to accomplish those goals.



Dr. Thomas P. Holland, director of the Kellogg Project on Effective Governance in the University of Georgia's School of Social Work, facilitated the meeting.

Retreat participants arrived ready to get the most out of their experience: they had read in advance the book that Holland co-authored, *The Effective Board of Trustees*, regarded as the definitive resource for higher education boards.

Work began right after lunch on Wednesday, when Holland divided trustees and administrators into three breakout groups of ten, each with a moderator and a reporter chosen from among its number. Using flip charts to record ideas and strategies, each group addressed a particular issue and, at the end of the morning session, brought back to the larger group the three ideas it considered most vital. In a later session, the entire group chose, from among these, the three goals they identified as top priorities.

"It was an entirely different experience from our usual style of meeting around a boardroom table," said Charlene Kammerer, now beginning her second three-year term as an alumna trustee. "The retreat solidified our working relationship and strengthened our vision. More people spoke, in the informal setting, and we were able to take better advantage of the diversity and creativity of this board."

Kammerer was not alone in her assessment of the meeting. A number of participants commented that the event was the best seminar on trusteeship they had ever attended. As the college makes plans for a major capital campaign, such community-building work is especially important. Trustees like Tom Bass were also encouraged to see the level of commitment the

group demonstrated. "They all showed a willingness to work hard," Bass noted.

The group identified three priorities to be addressed in the coming twelve

months, as well as specific actions to be taken. The first priority involves a commitment to support plans for putting a capital campaign in place. Second on the agenda was the board's own operation, with the group calling for wider participation, better preparation, and greater

productivity. The third goal addressed campus planning for space and computing needs.

As Wesleyan's governing board looks to the future, the experience of "retreating" has helped them gain a solid basis for moving forward. Trustees returned excited and ready to put their plans into action. As Kammerer put it, the event represented not just an annual meeting, but "a moment of transformation for our work." 

*Trustees Bill Jones (left) and Tom Bass (right) posting the summary of group work*



## WOW Day enlists community support

Nearly \$100,000 was raised on Feb. 6, when members of the Wesleyan board of associates, board of trustees and college

administration went into the Macon community to increase awareness of Wesleyan's contributions to Middle Georgia and to garner support for the college. Macon Mayor Jim Marshall proclaimed Feb. 6 "Workers of Wesleyan Day" citywide.



*WOW Day: Board of associates president-elect Dan Forrester greets guests Melba Stout and Jeannette Shackelford '61.*

## MLK's daughter speaks to Wesleyan students

Yolanda King, the eldest daughter of Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was Wesleyan's speaker for opening Spring Convocation 1996. She spoke to students, faculty, staff and members of the community in the Porter Auditorium on Thursday, Jan. 11.

King, an actress and producer/director, has combined her interest in human rights with her artistic pursuits, seeking to effect social and personal change. During her lecture, she encouraged people to use the King holiday as "a day of service, not shopping." King also expressed her belief that her father's dream of racial harmony was left unfulfilled, and encouraged women to continue to be leaders in the quest for equality.

Lisa Peppin, a senior from Saint Paul, Minn., was motivated by King's message. "She was a powerful speaker," Peppin noted. "You just wanted to get up and do something."



## Society for the 21st Century recognized

The annual gala recognition dinner for members of the Society for the Twenty-First Century was held on Friday, Jan. 26, at the Idle Hour Country Club in Macon. The Society has a membership of 222 alumnae, trustees, and friends who have provided for Wesleyan's future as a part of their estate planning. Pictured above right, left to right, front row, are May Ackerman, John and Annette Loyd '47 of Texas, and Bob Ackerman, president of the college. Martha Swann '47 of Macon, president of the Society, and her husband Duck Swann are in the back row.



## Annual scholarship competition attracts prospects from coast to coast

More than 120 prospective students from across the Southeast and as far away as Minnesota, Arizona and California recently visited Wesleyan's campus to participate in the college's annual scholarship competition. Students competed for awards ranging in value up to full tuition. Competitive events included personal interviews, team



*Above: Admissions rep Alyssa Banguilan with Jessica Doerrler (Fla.).*

*Below: Prospective students Carol Robertson and Julie Bailey.*



problem solving, classroom discussion, and the writing of an essay. Approximately 60 percent of these scholars are expected to enroll next fall, according to John Thompson, dean of admissions and financial planning. He states, "The annual scholarship competition continues to be successful because of the involvement and support of current Wesleyan students and the faculty."

Auditions and portfolio reviews for fine art scholarships were held concurrently. A visitation for high school juniors is scheduled for Sunday, April 21, 1996.



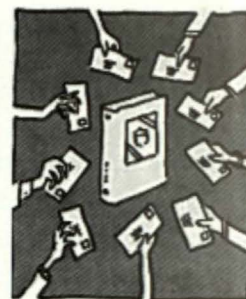
*Above: Corinna Proffitt of Chino Hills, Calif., recipient of the Trustee Scholarship.*

## Alumnae Directory update

All Wesleyan College alumnae are currently being asked to complete an important questionnaire by mail. This questionnaire is being sent to give every alumna the opportunity to be listed accurately in the upcoming new Wesleyan College Alumnae Directory. Please be sure to complete and return this questionnaire.

Within two to three months the verification phase of the project will begin. Alumnae will be receiving a telephone call from Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., the official publisher of our Directory. Please give the representative who calls you a few moments of your time to verify your listing.

To place a reservation for the Wesleyan College Directory, please advise the Harris representative during the con-



## Habitat co-founder to speak at spring commencement

Commencement exercises for Wesleyan's Green Knight Class of 1996 will be held Saturday, May 3, 1996, in the Porter Auditorium. The Commencement Address will be given by Linda Caldwell Fuller, co-founder and assistant to the president of Habitat for Humanity. The Baccalaureate speaker will be Sister Mary Joseph, OP, a 1975 Wesleyan graduate.

## College sponsors Diversity Week

Wesleyan College celebrated Diversity Week Jan. 22-27 by continuing the tradition of International Night Dinner in the dining hall, the Display of Nations, and CSA's House Party mixer on Friday night. New additions to the Diversity



versation, since this will be the only opportunity alumnae will have to order the book.

Scheduled for release in September/October 1996, the Wesleyan College Alumnae Directory promises to be the definitive reference of over 7,300 alumnae. Don't miss this chance to be a part of it!

## Alumnae plan trip to Britain and Ireland

The Wesleyan tradition of alumnae travel will continue with an opportunity to visit the British Isles and Ireland August 6-19, 1996. Wesleyan College alumnae and friends will enjoy two weeks of planned activities and individual adventures through a travel package arranged by Vantage Deluxe World Travel.

The trip includes round-trip international jet air transportation, 20 meals, and the assistance of a Vantage Tour Director, plus local guides and tours. The experience will begin in London, England. The group will also visit Edinburgh, Scotland and lively Dublin, Ireland. Additional pre- and post-travel options are available to Paris, France, and the Irish countryside.

The rich history and pageantry, friendly people, and terrific shopping in the British Isles make this trip a very popular one. For more information, call Vantage Deluxe World Travel at 1-800-833-0899 or the Alumnae Office. A deposit of \$300 per person holds your place, and you can charge this deposit to VISA, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover.

## Here's our Olympics connection—what's yours?

*Wesleyan College has been selected as a member of the Host Campus Network for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. Olympic guests will be staying on our campus prior to the Games in Atlanta this summer. (However, there are no public events taking place on the Wesleyan campus.)*

*The college is interested in knowing more about the roles that our alumnae, students, faculty and staff have in connection with the Olympics. Are you working for ACOG (in a volunteer or paid capacity)? Are you planning to attend the competitive events? Is someone in your family competing or participating in the ceremonies? We would like to report on these activities in the next Wesleyan College News, so please forward information to the Office of Public Relations.*

## Sports Report

### BASKETBALL

The Pioneers basketball team recently finished its season with a 7-15 record on the heels of its first winning season in '94-'95. Yet head coach Lori Mazza is pleased with the team's performance. "We had a young team and only seven players, so I believe we played very competitively." This season's schedule was also a tougher one, as the team faced ranked institutions such as Savannah College of Art & Design. "Four of our losses were within one point, and 10 losses were within 10 points," adds Mazza. "I was impressed with the composure of the players in these circumstances. Look for a good team next year." Wesleyan's Pioneers won over rival Agnes Scott during all three games this season.

### EQUESTRIAN TEAM

Wesleyan's 14-member equestrian team finished fall IHSA competition ranked second in the region. Jennifer Scott, a senior studio art major from Atlanta, ranked second in the competition for high point rider. According to Jon Conyers, instructor of riding and team coach, "Though the team is new this year, with only two well-seasoned riders, we have been very competitive. We are performing even better this spring." Three regular-season events are scheduled for this spring. The last event, as well as the Regional Finals, were held on Wesleyan's campus March 30 and 31. Conyers anticipates that several students will attend IHSA and ANRC regionals and finals again this year.

### TENNIS

The 1996 tennis season has begun under the direction of Wesleyan tennis coach and Macon pro Jaime Kaplan. The team members will compete in 10 matches this spring, mostly against Georgia schools.

### INTERCOLLEGIATE SOFTBALL COMES TO WESLEYAN

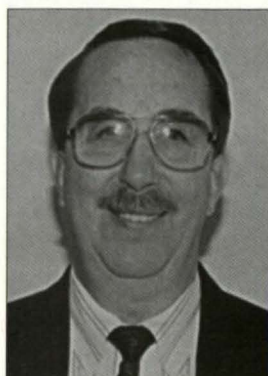
More than 15 players have turned out to play for Wesleyan's first softball team. Kristi Straub, assistant athletic director and head softball coach, is excited about this year's effort because for a number of years "there has been such an interest in it." This spring's limited season as a club team will allow for skill development and recruitment in anticipation of next year's status as a NCAA Division III intercollegiate competitor. The schedule is a light one, consisting of only five games, because there are few other area teams that compete in fast-pitch softball.



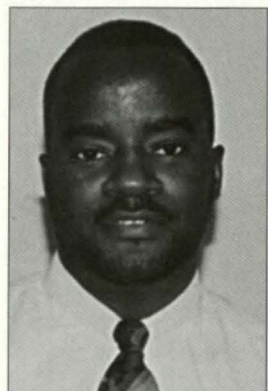
## New Faculty and Staff



**Barbara Brannon** has recently joined the Wesleyan staff as director of public relations and publications, having previously served in a similar capacity with nearby Georgia College. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of South Carolina, where her dissertation research in book history concerns another "first for women": a biography of Marion E. Dodd, first woman officer of the American Booksellers Association.



**Claire Lundgren**, new treasurer/comptroller, served for the past five years as vice president for business and finance at Marycrest College in Davenport, Iowa. Prior to that he held financial positions at Buena Vista College, also in Iowa, and the University of Nebraska. He is a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan College.



**Michael Nobles** is Wesleyan's new network coordinator. Nobles, who has spent 10 years with the Avionics Division at Robins Air Force Base and five years in computer support and service, works for the college's department of information services.



Having served as an interim admissions representative during the Fall 1995 traveling season, **Allison Wohlbruck '94** has officially joined the admissions staff. Currently, Wohlbruck is responsible for recruiting in northwest Georgia, western South Carolina, and all of North Carolina.

## Faculty notes



**Edward Eikner**, Comer Professor of Fine Arts, has a new CD (#CM20040), "Serenade," that is available nationally and in some foreign countries. The disc consists mainly of piano transcriptions of vocal works including the songs of Franz Schubert arranged by Franz Liszt, works by Bach arranged by Busoni and Myra Hess, French works, and Rachmaninoff transcriptions of his own and other works. The title work, the famous Schubert "Serenade" ("Ständchen"), is found on the first of 17 bands. The disc is available in a number of Macon locations, including the Wesleyan Bookstore. Alumnae wishing to purchase from the bookstore should make checks payable to the Wesleyan Bookstore for \$19.08 (\$18 + tax).

**Joe Iskra**, associate professor of mathematics, attended the national American Mathematical Society-Mathematical Association of America meeting in Orlando, Fla., in January. Joining him were Wesleyan seniors **Sharon Brim** of Columbus, Ga.; **Jennifer Finch** of Warner Robins, Ga.; **Michelle McCluney** of Baxley, Ga.; and **Marnie Morris** of Leesburg, Ga.

**Lisa Holden**, assistant professor of computer science, attended the national conference of the Association for Computing Machinery in Philadelphia, Pa., in February.

Wesleyan's **English Department** has established a newsletter for current students of the department and recent English alumni. The newsletter will feature columns from retired professors **Ann Munck** and **Arch Beckelheimer**, as well as items from current faculty.

**Brian Britt**, assistant professor of philosophy and religion, and **Petra Schweitzer**, instructor of modern languages, are taking a group of students to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. These students are enrolled in the interdisciplinary Wesleyan Junior Seminar entitled, "Remembering, Representing, and Reevaluating the Holocaust."

## Right: The Blizzard of '96?

Huge snowflakes fell over Macon and the Wesleyan campus on a recent February day—for about 30 minutes.





## Dear Alumnae and Friends of Wesleyan,

I am delighted to report to you that this year, my twelfth, has been the best of my Wesleyan years. Enrollment in both semesters of 1995-96 has been larger than anticipated, and we predict continued growth in 1996-97. New additions to our faculty have enhanced its national—no longer just regional—character, representing some of the finest universities in the country. This expansion reflects the College's recent reclassification by the Carnegie Foundation as a Liberal Arts College I. Although that reclassification removed Wesleyan from the U.S. News and World Report regional scale, where we had come to enjoy a high (and rising) ranking it moved us up to the "big leagues" of the national institutions. The challenge, now, will be to improve Wesleyan's competitive position among new company.

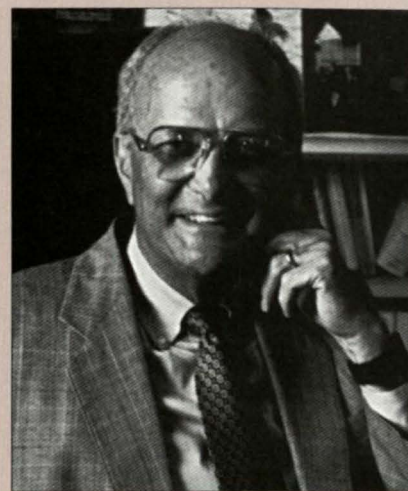
Over the course of this past dozen years, I have seen our academic program grow steadily healthier, into what is now a program superbly focused on liberal education for women. You will recall that we have in recent years eliminated a number of the professional degrees in order to concentrate our efforts on one degree, the Bachelor of Arts. By acknowledging our strengths, we have come to do a few things very well rather than many things only passably well. I am confident that our renewed focus is consonant with the beginnings of Wesleyan. From its earliest years, Wesleyan was designed to provide to women a classical liberal arts education comparable to that already available for men. We have returned to those liberal-arts roots. Significantly, the number of majors in

music in the liberal arts program is increasing thus validating our decision.

We have been fortunate to secure the funds to undertake considerable renovations and new construction on the campus. Air conditioning work is underway for Wortham, the last of the residence halls. This means that we shall never again have to put students in un-air-conditioned dormitories in Macon in August! And thanks to the generosity of new Trustee George Mathews, we are now constructing the Mathews Athletic Center, the first phase of which includes a softball field, a soccer field, and six tennis courts. The second phase of the Center will include an outdoor swimming pool, a volleyball pit, and a fieldhouse with dressing rooms, team rooms, equipment rooms, and offices.

We are launching some new fund-raising programs to increase Wesleyan's margin of excellence. Of the \$2 million we are working to raise through a church campaign in the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, \$1 million will be placed in the endowment to support a full-time chaplaincy. The income will pay the salary of the chaplain and provide funds for such programs as convocations, vesper services, counseling and guidance for student volunteer activities—greatly enriching the life of the campus. The second \$1 million will endow scholarships for students coming to Wesleyan from the UMC's South Georgia Conference.

We are also exploring the possibilities of a major capital campaign. Priorities of the campaign would be to increase the



# From the President

endowment significantly, to provide renovated space for student activities (presumably still on the ground floor of the Olive Swann Porter Building), and probably provide an annex to the Taylor science building now bursting at the seams due to increasing interest in the study of science and mathematics. Wesleyan's endowment has risen to around \$28 million. While that figure demonstrates strong recent growth, a larger endowment will give us a plateau of stability from which we can launch the College into the next century.

I am pleased to report this progress to you. Let me assure you that your interest and support are important to that progress. I and the other leaders of Wesleyan College shall welcome your comments, your advice, and of course your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. K. Ackerman".

R. K. Ackerman

*"... this year, my twelfth, has been  
the best of my Wesleyan years..."*



Below: Dr. Mary Ellen Durham lends her energy and enthusiasm to Wesleyan's newest academic ventures

# Teaching Technology



## *Master's degree, college/public school computer link introduced at Wesleyan*

**L**ate last month the nation's governors and key corporate leaders convened in Palisades, New York, to check America's progress on its educational goals—among them the expectation that by the year 2000, United States schoolchildren would be first in the world in mathematics and science. When President George Bush first called the governors together in 1989 (only the third time in history that a president had done so) it was to set broad objectives for educational improvement. This time, the governors' group aimed to devise concrete strategies and determine how technology can be better used in the classroom.

Wesleyan College is already prepared to play its part in these national priorities, with two related educational programs launched just this year. First, the college's first graduate program, the master of arts in teaching (M.A.T.) degree, will be introduced in June 1996. Second, a computer linkage has been set up between Bibb County's Redding Elementary School and Wesleyan's department of education (pilot classroom instruction was conducted at Redding in February). Both of these programs, funded by a major grant from the Peyton Anderson Foundation, capitalize on Wesleyan's renewed emphasis on math and science education.

"We recognized two great opportunities to apply our strengths to areas of criti-

cal need," says Mary Ellen Durham, director of the fledgling M.A.T. program since fall 1995. "The Redding linkage and the master's program will prepare teachers in more effective ways." In a recent interview, Durham discussed the startup of the M.A.T. and the program's initial focus on science and math for middle-level teachers. Her commitment to the program, and her confidence in its success, show.

**Durham: "We have an opportunity to make a real difference."**

A biologist and educator herself, Durham saw Wesleyan's plan as an chance to get in on the ground floor of something new. "The appeal of Wesleyan as a small liberal arts college that promotes academic excellence, that adheres to certain standards—that's what brought me here," she explains. "I come from a women's college background too, and the chance to return to that atmosphere is exciting. Wesleyan is known throughout the Southeast for its teacher preparation; the M.A.T. will add a new dimension."

The M.A.T. will train experienced science and math teachers in advanced



course content and teaching methods. "This program will concentrate on actual subject matter, in math and the sciences," explains Durham, "in contrast to the master's in education, which traditionally includes more pedagogy—teaching methods, psychology, curriculum planning, and the like. In the M.A.T., there won't be such a separate emphasis on theory; the students will learn the content, and they'll learn how to teach it, at the same time."

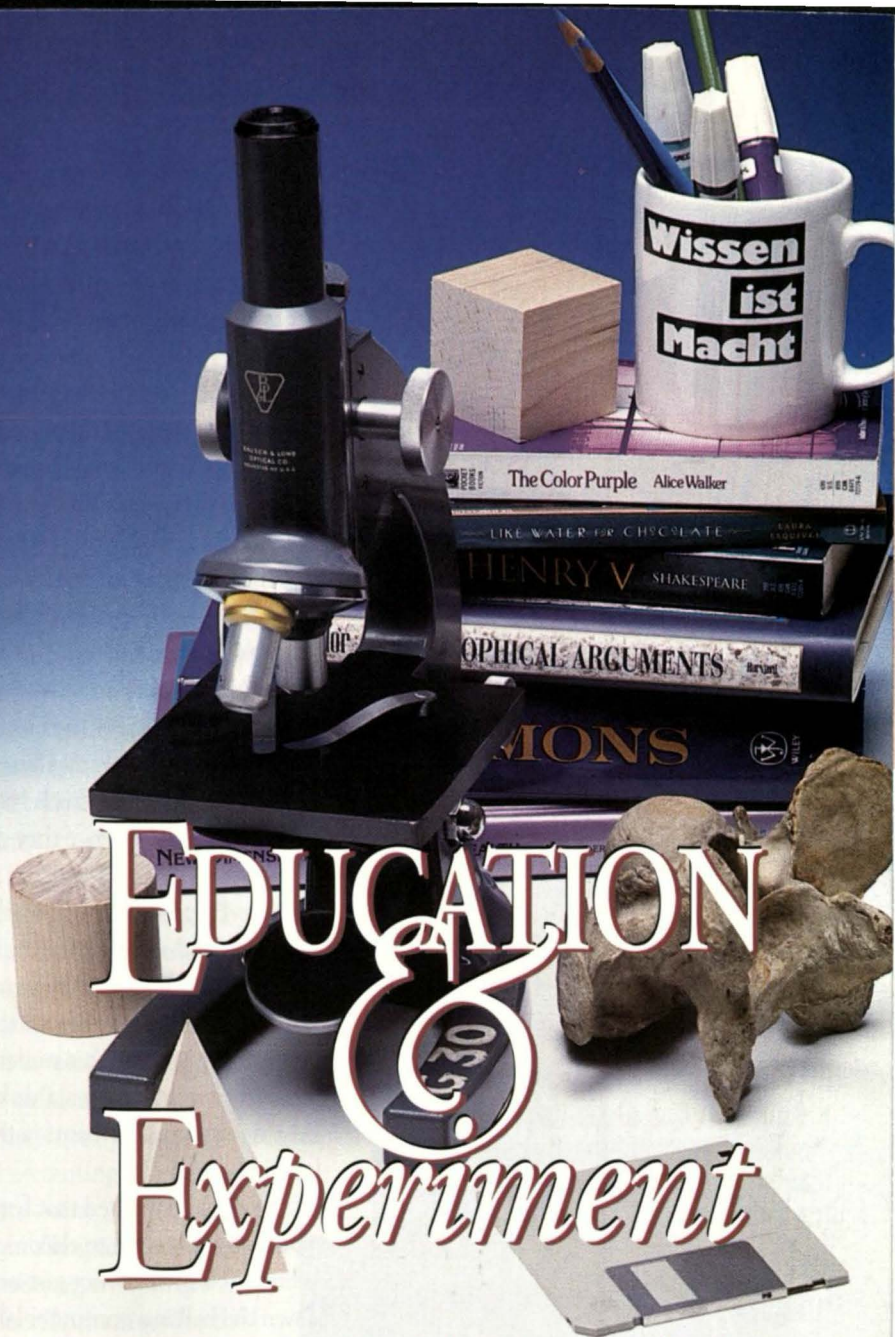
In a decade when the percentage of teachers with degrees in their main teaching assignment is actually declining,\* such subject-area preparation is especially timely. SACS, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, which is responsible for accreditation of Wesleyan's programs, must agree—they granted candidacy status for the M.A.T. in December 1995, calling the plan "exceptionally thorough."

The new degree program will support another of the goals from the 1989 governors' summit: that America's teachers will have access to programs for continued improvement of their professional skills. The Wesleyan M.A.T. will initially offer two areas of concentration: Middle Grades Science and Middle Grades Math. The program allows students to complete a master's degree in three consecutive summers of coursework, culminating in a thesis or practicum. Plans call for other concentration areas to be added in the future.

The curriculum will include professional core courses and concentration courses and is designed to empower teachers to be decision-makers, not just conveyors of information. "We've been making discoveries about how people learn," says Durham. "What someone did in teaching math and science ten years ago won't necessarily work anymore, because technology advances so fast. What we want to do is train teachers to make up their own experiments, using what they have on hand."

Durham describes a traditional approach for teaching a simple machine: the pulley. In the past, teachers might show their students a pulley as they explained how it works. Although the students received important information, if they weren't directly involved they may just have memorized it without

\* *New York Times*, 21 Feb. 1996.



*A hypothesis regarding the mechanism responsible for holding human skin cells together. • The proposition that even grade-school children can learn principles of physics. • The theory that learning takes place more readily in an interactive setting than in a lecture environment. • The idea that even newcomers to music, or to playwriting, or to painting can tackle these areas of artistic achievement and succeed. • This is the sort of experimentation that characterizes a Wesleyan education.*

*The following stories present several aspects of the work that is happening today on the Wesleyan campus. • Students are researching alongside faculty, interacting with the community beyond the classroom, and stretching their limits. • Professors are providing role models of exploration and discovery. • In short—learning is taking place, sometimes in radically new ways.*



thinking.

"The M.A.T. concentrates on alternative techniques, ways of presenting information more in line with the level of students' thinking. For example, the teacher asks students if they've ever ridden a bicycle—as most of them have—and brings an actual bike into the class. The students manipulate the chain and observe the effect on the gears and wheels. Based on their observations, they raise questions about how the bike works. They then design ways to test their theories, find answers, and ultimately discover not only how the bicycle works but how simple machines like pulleys, axles, and wheels function. Now that's science they can understand."

By providing real-world examples and allowing for inquiry, teachers can encourage students to investigate concepts in ways that are interesting to them. This student-centered method promotes critical thinking; pupils become active participants in their own learning.

"We've also learned that for a computer to really be useful to children, it must be in the classroom—not just isolated down the hall in a computer lab students

integrate technology into their classrooms (an advantage that Wesleyan undergraduates have long had, through the Computer Focus program, in which every incoming full-time student is given a computer of her own).

At Redding Elementary School in Macon, through the second prong of the Peyton Anderson grant, teachers and students work firsthand with such integrated technology. Redding principal Richard Burnes and Wesleyan professor Chuck Wynn, chair of the education department, envisioned a way to link Wesleyan's faculty, know-how, software, and other resources here on campus with the Redding classrooms. Their innovative plan became reality one day recently, in Redding's first, fifth and sixth grades.

"We gave these elementary students a chance to examine motion, a concept usually reserved for higher-level physics classes," Durham pointed out. Durham, along with Dr. John Park, the program's technology consultant from North Carolina State University, and Ann Marie Heard, a Wesleyan student teacher, set up a series of motion detectors in the classrooms.

Each detector was connected directly to the computer. The pupils were then encouraged to move about the room—not a difficult thing to motivate them to do—and to observe how the data reflecting their movements translated graphically onto the computer screen. The students soon realized the "pictures" on the screen were actually lines that indicated the direction, distance and rate of their movement. The students hypothesized about how various movements would appear on a graph and then invented ways to test their ideas. These young students thoroughly grasped concepts of linear motion, speed, and acceleration and were able to interpret graphs accurately.

The computers were linked to Wesleyan's lab, allowing direct contact with resident science faculty so the students could question a real scientist to

**On the Wesleyan side of the computer linkage, chemistry major Yehudi Self-Medlin uses one of the Power Macintosh workstations to connect to Redding Elementary School over the Internet...**

**SACS approved  
Wesleyan's plan for  
candidacy in December  
1995, calling the plan  
"exceptionally  
thorough."**

might visit once a week." In Wesleyan's courses, future teachers will learn how to





Administrative coordinator Sharlyn Green and education major Stephanie Price '96, in Wesleyan's Education Resource Center.

confirm their findings. In addition, Wesleyan students may in turn analyze the saved data in studies in kinetics, or

**Men at Wesleyan:  
Enrollment in the  
M.A.T. will be open to  
men as well as  
women, when the first  
applications are  
accepted this spring.**

examine the dynamics of group learning in an education class.

"The network linking the college classroom and the school classroom will incorporate audio and video," says Durham. "Say you're a teacher in the Redding classroom—and you want to use a video to illustrate the characteristics of a foreign culture for your fourth-graders. You can simply link up through the Wesleyan connection and take an online video tour of the Mideast. You can learn to develop

your own lab activities, and find out what others are doing. And if you're an education major at Wesleyan, you can have access to the whole gamut of grade experiences."

Through the linkage, Wesleyan's education majors will have access to teaching experiences and problem-solving opportunities. Redding pupils and teachers—and educators throughout the midstate—will in turn be able to check out books and teaching manipulatives from the instructional center at Wesleyan. The computer link is only one facet of a larger cooperative relationship between the two institutions, however: Redding teachers participate in technology courses conducted at Wesleyan; Wesleyan education majors are assigned clinical field experiences in the school; and the senior-level instructional methods course is jointly taught by the Wesleyan and Redding faculty both on campus and in the Redding classroom.

Wesleyan students and faculty alike are involved in research related to the new educational techniques. "Each of our faculty members is conducting research, publishing, and presenting at conferences. Our students—some fifty of them—are working right alongside them, observing, experimenting, analyzing."

What does Durham see for the future of Wesleyan's new programs? "They can only grow," she predicts with enthusiasm. "We're becoming a resource for teachers and students throughout the region." She pushes back from the desk that is stacked several inches deep in books and papers. "We have an opportunity to make a real difference." **W**

**...and on the Redding side, fifth grade teacher Kathy B. Grant helps 11-year-old Jonathan Ballard learn science in conjunction with college students and professors.**

*"This is my sixth year at Redding and I've enjoyed every year... We love our new computers. They help us with our math and reading skills... the teachers use the e-mail to send messages instead of going class to class. The computer has also helped in writing skills for the 5th grd. C.B.A. test..."*

—Jonathan Matthew Ballard

*"This is my second year here at Redding Elementary, coming from Savannah. Wesleyan has been great with networking us with them on the Internet. We've attended several workshops at Wesleyan.... I use the computer to enhance math and reading skills. The computer is great for my students in REP math... the computers here have proven to be a great success."*

—Kathy B. Grant





**W**hy do some genes turn suddenly into tumor-producing renegades? Which part of a protein is vital for holding cells together? And when we find the problem, what can we do to fix it? These mysteries of genetics are being investigated right now in labs such as Baylor College of Medicine. And the National Cancer Institute. And Wesleyan College.

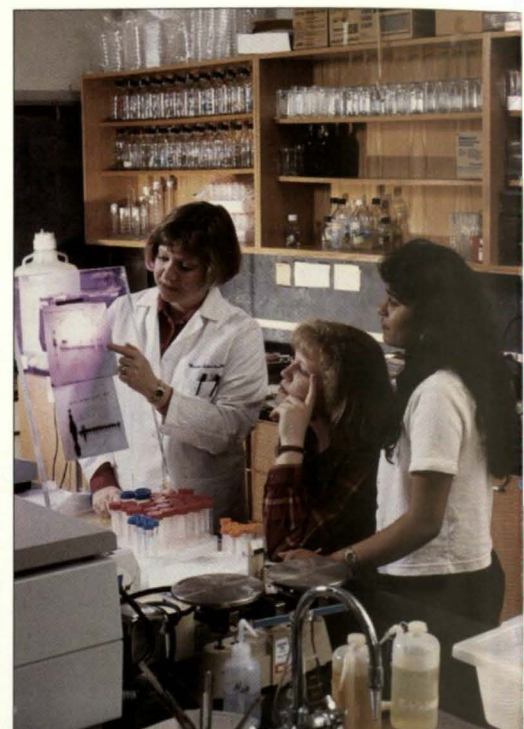
When biology professor Wanda Schroeder brought her family back to Macon to continue a promising teaching career, she also brought with her to

*Right: Dr. Wanda Schroeder with students Evelyn Rawcliffe and Dhalia Wharton*

cells, or kidney cells, or blood cells? Answers to this question provide insights into tumor formation, by showing what goes wrong with these genetic keys.

Schroeder's students learn the scientific method by doing it—hands-on—in conjunction with such ongoing research. They participate in component experiments of the broader project, each assisting with preparing the laboratory, gather-

## *Wesleyan undergraduates have rare opportunities to do hands-on research*



Wesleyan more than \$150,000 in National Institutes of Health grants. Schroeder's expertise, along with the research funding and Wesleyan's own commitment to building a state-of-the-art lab, have put the college in an enviable position: Wesleyan undergraduates now have the kind of opportunities for advanced biological research usually reserved for graduate students at large universities.

"In the typical undergraduate academic laboratory setting," says Schroeder, "you're given experiments to do; but in a real lab, you must design and test your own hypotheses. That's what we want our students to experience."

In Wesleyan's genetics lab, students are getting a taste of real-world science. One project, for instance, deals with the process of human cell maturation. Schroeder and her students seek to determine why certain genes are expressed (made into protein) when others are not—what makes cells branch off from a common genetic denominator at a certain stage of development to become eye

# Real Science:

ing samples, monitoring cultures, and observing changes as well as in formulating hypotheses and analyzing results. The skin cells that are Schroeder's specialty provide an ideal subject for experimentation in the small college lab, since they do not involve invasive procedures as internal tissues do; skin cells may be grown without the need to extract new tissue cultures. The skin is important, too, explains Schroeder, as the body's first defense against invading organisms.

Schroeder began her skin-cell research during her postdoctoral fellowship, with mentor Madeleine Duvic, M.D., at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. In collaboration with Duvic, she isolated a new gene, ESA (epidermal surface antigen), a human gene believed to be involved in intercellular

**The genetics lab is brought to campus by Wanda Schroeder, a 1980 Wesleyan graduate, who has returned to her alma mater as assistant professor of biology. Schroeder recently taught biomedical sciences at the University of Texas medical school.**

**A dedicated faculty and small class sizes characterize the liberal arts curriculum at Wesleyan. In order to prepare students for lifelong learning and success, a Wesleyan education is designed to emphasize critical thinking and exploration of the issues that affect their futures.**



## CLASS OF 1917

Congratulations to **Margaret Ferrill Robinson '17** of Macon, who celebrated her 100th birthday on December 27, 1995. Margaret studied art and interior design in New York after attending Wesleyan, and returned to Macon in 1950. She quickly established herself as a very knowledgeable and delightfully witty interior decorator. Three granddaughters and several great grandchildren visit Margaret frequently, as do many of her friends and former clients.

## CLASS OF 1926

Attending the historic Santa Fe/Albuquerque Hot Air Balloon Fiesta last October was a marvelous experience, reports **Katherine Walker McElheny '26** of Fort Worth, Texas.

## CLASS OF 1930

Lake Worth, Fla., residents **Margaret Garnett Harris '30** and husband Clyde are moving to Johnson City, Tenn., in March to be closer to one of their sons and his family.

## CLASS OF 1934

Distinguished actress of Broadway and beyond, **Eugenia Rawls '34** of Denver, Colo., starred in a heartwarming holiday television film based on renowned Southern writer Lillian Smith's classic book *Memory of a Large Christmas*. Eugenia is widely known throughout the U.S. and Great Britain for her own one-woman plays.

## CLASS OF 1935

Congratulations to **Thalia Johnson Gooch '35** and husband Stapleton in Lake Wales, Fla., who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on February 5, 1996, with their four children and five grandchildren.

## CLASS OF 1943

**Mary Belle Gardner Quesenberry '43** writes of her surprise at seeing Wesleyanne **Rosa Comolli Savage '42** at Westminster Canterbury, the Quesenberrys' summer home at Virginia Beach, Va. Mary Belle says that by the time the *Veterropts* were unpacked it was time to come home. She and her husband plan to travel to Russia this summer.

## CLASS OF 1944

**Dorothy Anne Pim Roth '44** of Waleska, Ga., and husband Clint celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary January 18. They have a new great-granddaughter, Carlee Anne Brodie, born July 22, 1995. Dorothy Anne plans to visit the U.S. Virgin Islands in May to attend her granddaughter Laurie Ann's wedding. Laurie Ann is a TV news reporter in Chattanooga.

Granddaughter Anne Ruth Brodie lives in Gainesville with her husband Bob Hill.

## CLASS OF 1947

**Mary Giglia Johnson '47** of Ft. Myers, Fla., has been with WBBH-TV for more than 25 years—anchoring, reporting, producing and writing. A recently retired coordinator of bilingual and foreign languages for the Lee County School Board, she has assumed a new position with the station as community outreach coordinator.

## CLASS OF 1948

**Cordelia "Corky" Dessau Holliday '48** and her husband Jack of Macon have started a new business venture—she says "when most folks their age think of retiring." They are land developers for Lake Ridge subdivision, a piece of land they invested in 30 years ago. Corky also owns Corky Holliday Enterprises, which specializes in selling ad space for businesses such as restaurants to use on menus and placemats. The couple enjoy their second careers and have fun working together.

## CLASS OF 1949

**Anna Frances Kenney-Belisle '49** of College Park, Ga., writes that her sons Andy and Robert own Belisle Brothers in Pike and Coweta Counties. Her youngest daughter Claire has two daughters, Elizabeth and Laura—two future Wesleyannes.

## CLASS OF 1954

Avondale Estates, Ga., resident **Louise S. White '54** has been elected president of the Metro-Atlanta Library Association for 1996. The organization is open to all librarians and information personnel of all area libraries: information centers, school media centers, college/university libraries, etc. Louise continues as music librarian for the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library.

## CLASS OF 1955

**Barbara Brown Dean '55**, sometimes known as Miss Lottie Dah, was featured in a newspaper article in the Macon Telegraph in February. Known as a "Story Teller Extraordinaire," Barbara has entertained over 120 elementary school classes in the past year. A former teacher and opera singer, she conducts teacher workshops and writes for the newspaper in Eastman, Ga., where she resides.

## CLASS OF 1958

The pleasures of making Wesleyan "connections" wherever she has lived continues to marvel **Medra Lott Keyser '58**. From New Hampshire to California, North Dakota, Puerto

Rico and on to Amelia Island, Fla., where she and husband John reside now, Medra has encountered Wesleyan alumnae along the way and continues to treasure the memories. She and John love the island, where they enjoy playing golf, fish and swim. John also has an aviation consulting business.

## CLASS OF 1959

Congratulations to **Mary Terrell Mitchell '59** of Lizella, Ga., on the birth of her first grandchild, John Thomas Mitchell III, on Dec. 18, 1995. Proud parents Lisa and John T. Mitchell Jr. live in Macon, where John is a partner in the law firm of Jones, Cork, and Miller.

## CLASS OF 1960

**Emily Ann "Toots" Childres Mims '60** and husband Don of Macon received kudos in the Recipes of the Week section of the Macon Telegraph last September for the delicious recipes and meals they serve. She says cooking as a team is a terrific pleasure for both of them. Grandson Grayson was also pictured in the article.

Congratulations to **Gloria Boyette Price '60** of Valdosta, Ga., on the birth of her granddaughter Ellen Katherine on Feb. 14, 1996. Daughter Melanie and husband Stuart Beavers will call her Ellie Kate.

## CLASS OF 1962

An exhibition of original art works interpreting the historic Hay House in Macon featured several local Wesleyannes: **Stewart Burgess '62**, **Chi Ezekwueche '96**, **Jean Parkins Heard '47**, **Cynthia Buchanan Lynch '89**, **Catharine Burns Liles '79**, **Eugenia Corley Simons '47**, **Jacquelyn Kunkel Ivey-Weaver '87**; **Carol King Pope '59** from Rock Mount, N.C., also exhibited. What a wonderful representation of artistically talented Wesleyannes!

## CLASS OF 1963

**Cecilia McDaniel Brock '63** writes that she is happy to be home in Cumming, Ga., after living in Kentucky. Her sons Don and Michael live in Georgia; daughter Rebekah and her husband Mark are in Ft. Rucker, Alabama. Cecilia lives near **Peggy Craig Bryant '63** and sees her often. She also enjoys her Wesleyan volunteer work as an alumnae admissions representative.

## CLASS OF 1964

**Harriette James Simmons '64** of Macon was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood in December. She assists in pastoral care, preaching and Christian education at Christ Church in Macon. She and husband Jim have four children.



Lynn Godwin Sikes '64 of Glennville, Ga., teaches first grade. She and husband Aubrey have two daughters, one a Wesleyanne—Allison Palit '90 who lives in Georgia and Bombay, India—and Angelynn Sheffield, who teaches second grade.

#### CLASS OF 1967

Ann Zimmerman Elliott '67 and new husband Dale live in Indian Springs Village, Ala., where she is a partner in the law firm of Vincent, Hasty, Elliott and Tidmore and he is a cardiologist. (See Marriages)

#### CLASS OF 1968

Accepting the position of Executive Director of the Concharty Girl Scout Council (composed of 17 counties), Patty Pearce Cardin '68 of Columbus, Ga., relishes the challenges of implementing new programs and forming new troops. In 1993, she earned a master's in public administration at Columbus College.

Anne Banister Attebury '68 and husband Ed celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past year. Anne has worked in Human Resources Management for over 15 years and is the editor for their company newsletter.

#### CLASS OF 1971

Dr. Barbara A. Brinson '71 of Richardson, Texas, has published a book, *Choral Music Methods and Materials*. She is professor of choral music education at Southern Methodist University.

Patricia Jones Vanderpool '71 has been appointed work process redesign consultant at Duke University. She and daughter Jennifer live in Cary, North Carolina.

#### CLASS OF 1972

Connie M. Holloway '72 of Macon has been appointed director for the microcomputer center at Macon Technical Institute.

#### CLASS OF 1975

Sharon Mattox Samples '75 and husband Douglas are enjoying family life in Douglasville, Georgia. They now have a full house with Sharon's son Ashley, 11, and Doug's three children: Chad, 17; Kasey, 16; and Ashley, 11. Douglas is a detective with the Atlanta Police Department. (See Marriages)

#### CLASS OF 1977

Cris Wren Van Horn '77 of Evans, Ga., is the business development manager for Savannah River Site's office of Science, Technology and Business Development. She received certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional, awarded by the National Development Council.

#### CLASS OF 1980

In July 1995, Kathleen Barth Humphries '80 of Frederick, Md., took a new position as clinical studies coordinator at The Neurology Center. She administers investigative drug studies. Kathleen recently bought her first home. Children Courtney, 14, Benjamin, 12, and Matthew, 1 are all well.

#### CLASS OF 1982

Cumberland, R.I., resident Lili Marlene Huskey Trudeau '82 writes that she is still employed with Paine Webber in Boston. She and husband David recently purchased a new home. (See Births)

Dr. Tina Martinez Barrios '82 of Bradenton, Fla., was selected for *Who's Who among American Teachers* for 1996.

#### CLASS OF 1985

Beth Tankersley Register '85 of Jacksonville, Fla., a senior human resources specialist with State Farm Insurance, received her PHR (Professional in Human Resources) designation in December. (See Births)

#### CLASS OF 1987

Jacquelyn Kunkel Ivey-Weaver '87 was featured in a solo visual arts exhibition at the Federated Garden Club in Macon this past fall. In October, she won first and second in painting—professional category at the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Ga. She continues to teach visual arts in her studio on Riverside Drive in Macon.

#### CLASS OF 1988

Maricka "Ricky" Rogers '88 and husband Garrick Crocker live in Deltona, Fla., with their three children. Maricka also completed the dual degree program in engineering between Wesleyan and Mercer University in 1991. (See Births)

Susan K. DeBay '88 of Decatur, Ga., is the new records coordinator for the Office of Development at Agnes Scott College.

#### CLASS OF 1989

Terri Jones Ellis '89 of Quincy, Fla., is organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Terri presented an advent musical meditation during the recent holiday season at First Presbyterian Church in Quincy. She has a master's degree in music from Florida State University.

#### CLASS OF 1990

Susan Gallas Mazzola '90 has been living in Brussels, Belgium, for two years. She is the conference coordinator for "Women on the Move," which opens on International Women's Day in Brussels. The conference in March will address

the impact of relocation and mobility on women, their careers, their families and the organizations which employ and move them.

Allison Sikes Palit '90 works part-time with her husband Ishan. He is general manager for TUV Qualitative Management in Bombay, India, a German company that does product certification. He set up the Indian operation and is responsible for the country's division. This past summer Allison and Ishan celebrated five years of marriage. They enjoy seeing as much of India, the Middle East and other parts of Asia as their business trips allow. They visit Glennville, Ga. twice a year.

#### CLASS OF 1992

Hazel C. Varnedoe '92 was selected as Teacher of the Year at Joseph Martin Elementary in Hinesville, Georgia. She now goes on to compete at the county level.

#### CLASS OF 1993

Cheryl D. Anderson '93 of Marietta, Ga., works at Kennesaw State College as coordinator for the college's music and performing arts programs.

#### CLASS OF 1994

Elizabeth Bockmiller '94 completed her Master of Science in mathematics at Texas Tech University in December 1995. Her thesis was "Experiments with Delayed Differential Equations near Resonance."

Nichole Collins MacMillan '94 and husband Doug of Richmond, Va., have both been awarded Friends Fellowships for the 1995-96 academic year at Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. Union is one of eleven theological institutions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

#### CLASS OF 1995

Gina Fry '95 of Macon won Honorable Mention in the Undergraduate Division Competition of The Carolinas Symposium on British Studies with her paper, "The Language of Order in James Joyce's 'The Dead.'" Wesleyan English professors Darlene Mettler and Regina Oost attended the conference at Appalachian State University where Gina was honored.

Keena Hammond '95 is an intern at the Freer and Sackler Galleries in Washington, D.C.

*Right: Members of Macon's Morning Music Club recently remembered the late Mary Bennet Cox Dunwoody '25—known for her distinctive hats—with a tribute in Wesleyan's Benson Room.*





**In Memoriam**  
**Jenée Blackwell Myers**  
 1975-1995

A junior at Wesleyan, Jenée was a member of the Student Government Association and the intramural soccer and basketball teams. She was also manager of the varsity basketball team and president of her class during all three of her years at Wesleyan.

**DECEASED**

1910  
**Lucile Singleton Guthrie**  
 1917  
**Agnes Morrison Kennon**  
 1925  
**Mary Bennet Cox Dunwody**  
 1927  
**Lucille Smith Burnett**  
 1928  
**Carolyn Gates Scoville**  
 1931  
**Alice Warren Smith**  
 1938  
**Effie Ola Tillman Gooch**  
 1943  
**Nell Davis Shirley**  
 1975  
**Ann Terwillegar Dunn**  
**Sarah Hague White**



**SYMPATHY**

The Wesleyan College Alumnae Association extends sympathy to:

**Carolyn Gibson Phelps '30** of Macon on the death of her husband, James MacLeod Phelps, on November 14, 1995.

**Julia Bryant Evans '31** of Bartow, Ga., on the death of her granddaughter, Julia Elizabeth Brantley Grundhoefer of Atlanta, on April 2, 1995.

**Anne Johnson Tutt Kalinin '48** of Pine Mountain, Ga., on the death of her son, Frank Johnson Tutt of Aiea, Oahu, Hawaii, on February 1, 1996.

**Beverly Reichert Kennon '48** of Coral Gables, Fla., on the death of her mother-in-law, **Agnes Morrison Kennon '17** of Coral Gables, in February, 1988.

**June Veendall Miller '49** of Fort Myers, Fla., on the death of her husband, Harold C. Miller, on November 27, 1995.

**Dr. Marcella Wood '49** of Atlanta on the death of her brother, Henry DiVenuto of Macon, on February 8, 1996.

**Celeste Parker Lewis '59** of Marietta, Ga., and **Frances Parker McCrary '62** of Sea Island, Ga., on the death of their father, Thomas Brewer Parker of Macon, on December 28, 1995. Mr. Parker was the great grandson of Catherine Brewer Benson, Wesleyan's first alumna.

**Eleanor Best Maudlin '60** of McRae, Ga., **Jacqueline Best Jones '64** of Bluffton, S.C., and **Jean Logan Russell '50** of St. Simons Island, Ga., on the death of Eleanor and Jacqueline's father and Jean's uncle, Jack Curry Best of McRae, Ga., in 1994.

**Stewart Burgess '62** of Macon on the death of her father, Malcolm S. Burgess, Sr., of Macon on December 29, 1995.

**Sylvia Hutchinson Bostwick '63** of Tucker, Ga., on the death of her mother, Manita Hall Hutchinson of East Point, Ga., on December 16, 1995.

**Barbara Ann Bryant '67** of Jacksonville, Fla., on the death of her mother, Thelma Elmore Bryant of Jacksonville.

**Sarah Lynn Guthrie Malone '67** of Jacksonville, Fla., on the death of her grandmother, **Lucile Singleton Guthrie '10** of Jacksonville.

**Susan Foxworth Dunwody '87** of Macon on the death of her mother-in-law, **Mary Bennet Cox Dunwody '25** of Macon, on December 30, 1995.

**BIRTHS**

The Wesleyan College Alumnae Association extends congratulations to:

**Judy Sanders Hughes '79** and Jim on the birth of a daughter, Ashley Ellen Hughes, on January 11, 1996. Ashley has an older sister, Hayley, who is three and a half.

**Susan Robertson Jaeger '80** and Karl on the birth of their second child, Caroline Grace Jaeger, on September 25, 1995. Caroline's older brother, Benjamin, is 3.

**Lili Marlene Huskey Trudeau '82** and David on the birth of a son, Charles N. Trudeau, on April 19, 1995. Charles has an older sister, Emily Marie, who is 4.

**Beth Tankersley Register '85** and Jimmy on the birth of their first child, a son, Christian "Scout" Register, on December 21, 1995.

**Donna Waites Terrell '87** and Tom on the birth of a daughter, Rachel Marie, on January 22, 1996.

**Maricka "Ricky" Rogers '88** and Garrick Crocker on the birth of a son, Gabriel Paul Rogers-Crocker, on June 24, 1995. Their other children are Emily, 3, and Geoffrey, 5.

**Melissa Adkins Brown '90** and Scott on the births of a daughter, Emily Katherine Brown, on May 23, 1995, and a son, Scott Thomas Brown, Jr., on February 19, 1992.

*See Class Notes for births of grandchildren.*

**MARRIAGES**

The Wesleyan College Alumnae Association extends congratulations to:

**Ann Zimmerman Arnold '67** and C. Dale Elliott of Indian Springs Village, Alabama, on their marriage on March 18, 1995.

**Dr. Sharon Mattox '75** and Douglas R. Samples of Douglasville, Ga., on their marriage on November 4, 1995.

**Kelly Zeigler Novack '80** and Robert "Bob" Ellgard on their marriage on November 18, 1995. They are living in Manitow Springs, Colo.

**Eileen Pamela Gray '93** and Joel Booth on their marriage on December 30, 1995. They are residing in Panama City, Fla.





# Margaret Manson Buckel '50

## *A "living picture" of an educator*

### ALUMNA PROFILE

*Part of a continuing series of articles highlighting the achievements of Wesleyan graduates*

It is fitting to recognize Margaret Manson Buckel '50 in connection with the idea of "education and experiment." After graduating from Wesleyan with a degree in religious education, she went on to earn a Master of Education degree at the University of Florida. For more than 12 years, she taught third grade and music classes at a public school; she then

worked for six years traveling to schools in the South as a consultant for a book

publisher. She saw firsthand the student problems of overcrowding and lack of parent involvement facing public schools.

In 1969, Buckel founded the Martha Manson Academy, named for her mother, in Gainesville, Fla. The independent, private K-4 school that began in a two-story house more than 25 years ago has prospered; about 300 students are now enrolled in the Academy, which is located

on a 10-acre campus. Buckel prides herself on the "small classes . . . and being able to teach without being so intent on keeping discipline."

Through her work as vice president for accreditation with the National Independent Private School Association, Buckel has seen many new developments in education over the years. "Our society today and the students' exposure to T.V. require that you have stimulating programs." Yet, she warns, "You have to be careful in what you select. You must remember that the basics are still important: reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic." An accelerated reading program and science classes—including lab work at the elementary level—are a few of the current innovations at Martha Manson Academy.

One of Buckel's favorites, however, is "living pictures." This yearly activity is an art program that integrates a number of other disciplines. Noted portraits of children (such as Picasso's *Girl with a Watering Can* or the works of Andrew Wyeth) are

studied. While working to recreate the background on a large scale in art class, the students learn about the history and music of the time period represented, and write a narrative for the painting. The "living picture" is then presented at an assembly and a photo of the event is hung on the walls of a hallway gallery.

The success of the Martha Manson Academy was recognized by the Wesleyan College Alumnae Association in 1989, when Buckel was named recipient of the Alumnae Award for Distinguished Achievement in a Profession. Today, she continues to serve as director of the Academy, but also finds time for church and community work.



epidermal adhesion—that is, one of the substances responsible for holding cells together. Schroeder believes that ESA plays a vital role in skin structure and maintenance, guarding against the formation of skin cancers and blistering diseases. Some of her Wesleyan students are now working with her to test this theory further.

"One of our students is currently working on finding out which part of the ESA protein is the key. These proteins work during different stages—the embryo and adult, for instance—with a set 'program' that determines when certain genes are turned on and turned off within the cell. If we can figure out what drives that program, we'll understand much better the conditions that cause the 'on' instructions to go haywire and lead to cancer," says Schroeder.

The researchers use mouse cells, into

how such cutting-edge investigation can be conducted outside the large research universities, Schroeder explains: "Scientific research is like a giant jigsaw puzzle—with individual pieces under consideration all over the world. Here at Wesleyan, we're working on solving our one corner."

When Schroeder made her decision to specialize in skin research (much less to enter a Ph.D. program straight out of a liberal arts college), the situation at Wesleyan, and in the scientific world in general, was much different. The field of genetics was just beginning to grow, but it was difficult for college students to find out how to break into it. Schroeder, who became interested in genetics during her junior year at Wesleyan, cites the indispensable help of mentors like biology professor Pat Hardeman and then registrar Judith Prince. "If it hadn't been for

the independent study in cytogenetics at Central State Hospital that Pat Hardeman helped me set up," claims Schroeder, "I'm not sure I would've gotten into the program at Texas."

**Schroeder:**  
**"a way to give  
 something back to  
 Wesleyan"**

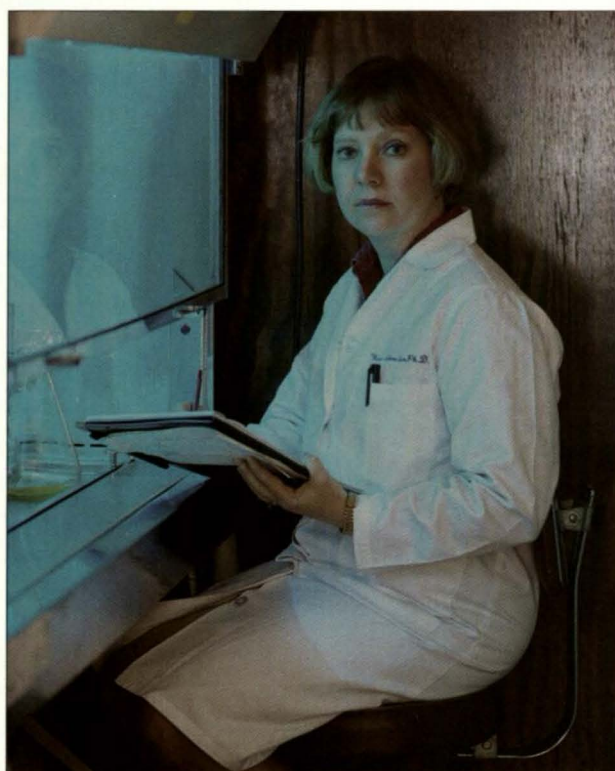
The molecular genetics program at the UT Health Center at Houston—the world's largest health sciences center—particularly attracted Schroeder. She knew the school was highly competitive,

# More Than Skin Deep

which human genes can now be introduced, to monitor protein expression. Through indirect immuno-fluorescence staining with antibodies, Schroeder and her students can see the changes taking place in these cells over time. Eventually, those involved continuously with the project will co-publish their findings.

The chance to participate in bona fide research and publication helps students see how science is really done and helps them determine their career choices early. "In our approach to teaching," says Schroeder, "we're way ahead—and where skin research is going, we're already on the forefront." For those who wonder

*Schroeder's lab is one of several new science facilities at the college, including an octopus laboratory and a behavioral sciences laboratory.*



accepting only 35 new doctoral students a year. But Wesleyan had prepared her well. "I discovered how much of an advantage I really had," she says. "It's a subtle thing, but other women graduate students often talked about being in the minority in their college programs, having always been overshadowed and intimidated by their male classmates. For me it was never that way—I was never afraid to speak out or to try things, because I'd always been encouraged to."

After completing her





Evelyn Rawcliffe transferred to Wesleyan from a junior college in Illinois. "I looked at Wesleyan right after graduation," she explains, "because of its 95% acceptance rate to medical schools." When her family moved to Atlanta last year (her father is now retired from the military), she was happy to make the switch. A junior majoring in chemistry with a minor in psychology, Rawcliffe has already done work at Wesleyan in DNA/RNA replication.

Rawcliffe took the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) last April and will soon apply to medical school; she hopes eventually to specialize in pediatrics or family practice. She also has an application currently in process for a special summer program at the University of Texas-Houston, to study the genetic inheritance patterns of cardiovascular diseases.



Dhalia Wharton, from Stone Mountain, Ga, was already interested in biology—and in kids—before she came to Wesleyan. Now, as a senior biology major, she plans on a career in pediatric medicine. Her college experience confirmed both her love for the sciences and her aptitude. In Wesleyan's biology and chemistry labs, Wharton has had advanced experience already; she has worked with Wanda Schroeder in studying the ESA gene responsible for the adhesion of skin cells. She appreciates being able to make a contribution to science as well as gaining knowledge herself. "It's rewarding to think you might find something that could lead to curing skin diseases."

After graduation this spring, Wharton hopes to work at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta while taking graduate coursework and preparing her medical school application.

doctoral work, Schroeder remained in Houston (despite offers from Cal Tech, Emory, SUNY, and other schools) to accept a postdoctoral fellowship and then a faculty position in the departments of dermatology and pharmacology. At Houston, she proved very successful at getting funding for experimental programs. She obtained grants from the NIH and also received their prestigious Shannon Award for Young Investigators.

In returning to Wesleyan, Schroeder brings an impressive amount of NIH funding with her: \$40,000 in equipment and \$135,000 for research, to which

Wesleyan has added \$40,000 to instate the genetics lab. A grant proposal is currently pending with the National Science Foundation for another \$150,000 for equipment to upgrade student research and laboratory exercises. "Funding agencies take note of the experience small colleges have in managing their resources," Schroeder remarks. "They see that their dollars go farther here."

Schroeder also enhances the level of professionalism in the biology department. All four full-time faculty members hold Ph.D.s and all are involved in independent research. The benefit to the stu-


dents has already begun to show: in the last two years there has been a great increase in the interest level among entering students. This year, 37% of Wesleyan's

**Small women's colleges  
are not known for sci-  
ences, but we want to  
change that.**

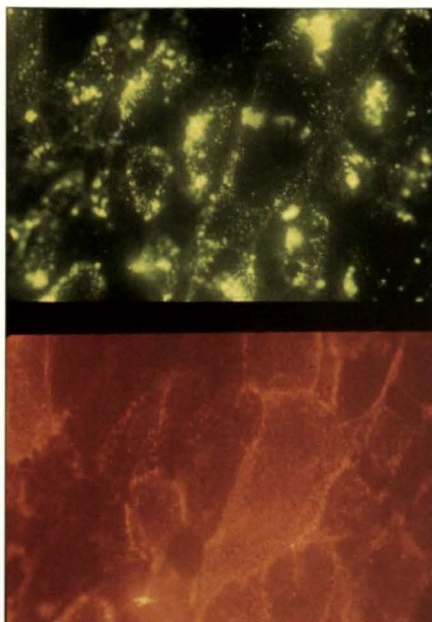
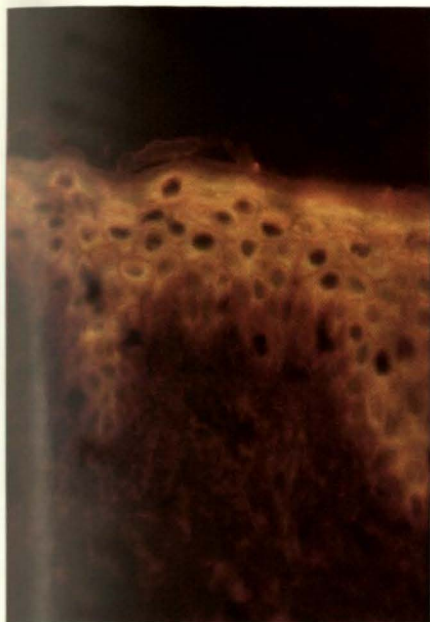
**—Ron Toll, chair, biology**

first-year students indicated plans to major in the sciences.

Schroeder expects Wesleyan's competitive edge to result in continued growth. Recently she attended, with biology professor Barry Rhoades, a statewide conference on "The State of the Art in Biology." The Wesleyan professors informally polled the other participants and found that, outside of Georgia State University and the University of Georgia, only at Wesleyan did scientific research include undergraduates. Often, colleges viewed scientific research as prohibitively expensive; however, Schroeder explains, after initial startup costs such programs as Wesleyan's genetics lab are not expensive to maintain. "Our administration has seen the wisdom of pursuing this program—and our students will reap the rewards," says Schroeder.

Wesleyan women who choose biology and other sciences have a far wider range of career options open to them now than they had a decade ago. Where at one time biology was seen almost exclusively as a major for pre-med students, now a broader range of options has become evident: pharmaceutical sales, for instance, or biomedical industry. And as Wanda Schroeder and her colleagues continue to undertake new experiments themselves, they open up even more ways for students to do science, not just see it done. 





Far left: A cross-section of human skin stained with an antibody specific for the ESA protein, demonstrating the position and abundance of this protein in normal, healthy skin.

Left: Human skin cells grown in the laboratory, showing different staining patterns with an antibody specific for a protein responsible for a human skin disease (top) and the ESA protein (bottom).

## You can go home again

Although Wanda Maynard Schroeder '80 had already taught and studied at one of the nation's most prestigious schools of medicine, she could see several advantages to returning to Macon. She grew up in nearby Cochran, where her family still lives. She and husband Steve, a Texas native, both wanted to try something different from big-city life. And, most of all, Schroeder saw a great opportunity to help build a department and to make a difference at her alma mater. She refers to her decision, smiling, as "a way to give something back to Wesleyan."

"Even when I was here as a student, the faculty encouraged us to reach our full potential," says Schroeder. "But now, we're doing that to an even greater extent, by adding the research dimension. That's something I felt I could bring back to Wesleyan—and it's exciting."

Schroeder somehow finds time to conduct her own research and monitor student projects, in addition to her teaching and departmental responsibilities. She strives to be a role model for Wesleyan women not only as teacher but as scholar, community member, and parent.

Wanda and Steve Schroeder enjoy camping with their three children, Lucas, Elyssa, and Amanda; they attend Vineville Baptist Church, where Wanda sings in the choir. Steve Schroeder is a master portrait photographer, bringing to the Macon area 15 years' experience with Gittings in Houston. He recently moved his studio into one of the Victorian Village buildings on Hardeman Avenue.

The Macon community is fortunate to claim the Schroeders as their own. Wanda Schroeder looks forward to carrying on the tradition of mentorship that made such a difference in her undergraduate years at Wesleyan. And from Wesleyan's perspective—welcome home, Wanda.



The Schroeder family: Steve and Wanda with children Lucas, age 10; Amanda, 17 months; and Elyssa, 6.



# State of the Arts

## *Cultural activities at Wesleyan stress "intersections"*

**D**ENNIS, HOMELESS PHILOSOPHER and cynic, stands on the cold, dingy tracks of a subway line somewhere up north. His young friend Harvey calls

Charlie George, the chance to work with award-winning playwright Barbara Lebow was an inspiring opportunity. That opportunity, however, is only one of the many ways in which Wesleyan students interact with professional artists and with the community, to the benefit of all involved.

### **The arts: A longstanding link**

The fine arts have always been important to Wesleyan's curriculum, as well as to the local community. The college has educated teachers and practicing artists in the visual and performing arts throughout its history.

Wesleyan's Porter Auditorium has been home to the Macon Symphony Orchestra for many years (the MSO's offices are located here as well) and the Macon Concert Association (formerly the Community Concert Series) since 1936. The college's cultural ties to Macon were further strengthened several years ago with the launch of MidSummer Macon and the Center For The Arts.

Jeanette Shackelford '61, chair of Wesleyan's music department and director of the Center For The Arts and MidSummer Macon, reflects on the beginnings of the two community programs based at Wesleyan. When the community moved in 1988 to begin a summer program in the arts, the college vol-

unteered its resources as a home base. To improve MidSummer Macon's effectiveness, Wesleyan itself added the Center For The Arts, which supplements the summer program with courses during the academic year. "In the first weeks of operation, we had a table, a typewriter, and a telephone," recalls Shackelford. "But we had 291 people the first summer [1989], and the programs have been expanding ever since."

The three-week MidSummer Macon session brings people of all ages to the Wesleyan campus, for residential as well as day classes. During those three weeks, the evenings are full with performances that are open to the public. This summer, the schedule will be a bit different due to the Olympic Games, but events will tie in with a coordinating theme.

### **Music: Wesleyan, Macon, and beyond**

Just as Wesleyan strives to merge town and gown through its community programs, it stresses that same intersection in its academics. Artists-in-residence and adjunct instructors of music augment the work of the faculty on campus; students,



*Meyer and George in Lebow's "The Beast"*

to him from the platform above, anxiety registering in his voice as a low rumbling sound approaches. But Dennis is transfixed in his determination to withstand the beast—and Harvey, reaching to save him, is instead drawn to share Dennis's fate as the engine rushes on, oblivious.

The lights come up after a brief moment of darkness in which the train echoes away. It's a full house in Wesleyan's Grassmann-Porter Studio Theatre this Saturday night, and the applause for the two Wesleyan women who have played Harvey and Dennis has been well earned. Their hard work has paid off.

For cast members Laura Meyer and

**Alumnae in metro Atlanta and north Georgia, northern Alabama, and Nashville and Chattanooga, Tenn. will want to watch their local news for upcoming concert dates as the Concert Choir and Wesleyannes tour their region.**



in turn, take their music off campus into studios, arts centers, concert halls, schools, and churches.

The Concert Choir, with a membership recently increased to over 40 students, will tour three states this spring, under the direction of Instructor Cherrie Llewellyn. The choir is tackling more difficult works and

doing more a capella singing. The Wesleyannes, a select ensemble of 13 students directed by Professor Fletcher Anderson, will continue their schedule of concerts featuring sacred music and Broadway and popular tunes; last fall they gave a dozen performances statewide, including five within the Christmas season alone.

The choir and ensemble are open to music students and non-music majors alike. "We're seeking—and getting—more involvement in music programs from students all over campus," said Shackelford, who sees music as an integral part of any liberal arts education, not a specialty limited to future teachers and performers. At Wesleyan, all students have the chance to work with world-class talent: newcomers to the keyboard, lacking any musical background, may learn from concert pianist Edward Eikner, for instance, or study with Dr. Jeanell Brown '83, who is chair of the music department at Tennessee Temple College and was here recently for a residency as the Heyward Chair Visiting Artist. Students in any major have the option to take MUS 135 (World Music Literature) and 136 (Music

Creativity), in which they may develop talent they weren't even sure they had. The department often discovers talent and identifies potential majors through these courses, too.

"We like to think of our 'music students' as including minors and majors," said Shackelford. "We now number more than 20 students in that

group—an encouraging increase." The music professors stay in touch with many former students as well, remarking that "Wesleyan graduates are doing noteworthy work all over, as teachers, church music directors, organists, and choir directors—and also as vocal coaches, arts

directors, musical theatre directors, and professors."

At the fall meeting of the Georgia Music Educators Association, Anderson had the chance to talk with several Wesleyan alumnae. Jan Shellnut Whalen '71, Debbie Vick Pierce '71, Jane Estes '81, Paula Cobb Gibson '81, and Lisa Elliott Schmidt '80 all shared good news of their current activities in school or church music. Rhonda Helton Gossett '82 reminded Anderson recently of "how well my Wesleyan experience prepared me to be a musician"—Gossett is now singing the lead in "Dido and Aeneas," to be performed by the Baroque Island Singers of St. Simons Island, Ga.

Dr. Barbara Brinson, a graduate of the class of 1971, is now professor of music in the highly regarded program at Southern Methodist University. Brinson passed along to Shackelford the news of her new



*Above: Wesleyannes, December 1995.*

**Six Wesleyan students were named to All-College Chorus for 1996: Lisa Dowell, Katy Durham, Amanda Benson, Jessica Jarman, Tiffany Childress, and Christina Cote.**

## A Recent Letter

*"How I enjoyed those Sunday afternoon faculty musicales at Wesleyan, back in '61-'62—a lovely free concert every Sunday! And one night we had Virgil Fox perform a mostly-Franck program on the Candler organ\*..."* writes former student Susan Matthews to Fletcher Anderson. She goes on to describe Fox as "a little man with a cherubic face, and an effusive, very childlike enthusiasm, wearing a dashing black cape lined in red." Matthews' memories of her time at Wesleyan are happy ones. "I never again experienced the sense of community and sharing of ideas that prevailed at Wesleyan," she says, a contrast to the "rushed, bureaucratic University" where she now teaches. Back in the 1960's, Matthews remembers, "It was also a thrill to see Flannery O'Connor at some of the musical events."

\* [Now the Goodwyn-Candler Organ]

textbook, "Choral Music Methods and Materials: Developing Successful Choral Programs, Grades 5-12," now available from the publisher.

Current Wesleyan students have stretched their boundaries beyond Wesleyan through the Internet. In Anderson's music classes, students were recently assigned to search the World Wide Web for applicable sites related to music. "They located information about everything from the history of blues to the biography of Mozart," said Anderson.

Wesleyan's music traveled to Italy this spring, with a series of concerts by music professor Edward Eikner. Alumna Neva Jane Langley Fickling '53 joined Eikner for two-piano performances of Saint-Saëns' "Carnival of the Animals." The spring tour was the third in the past few years for Eikner, who has presented programs in Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall and around the world.



**The music department has been working to improve its facilities; visitors may immediately notice some cosmetic changes in the Porter hallways. Most importantly, however, two major piano-rebuilding projects have been completed. The Lane Concert Grand Piano, used on the Porter Auditorium stage, has been restored with gifts from the college trustees, as a tribute to Linda Lane, past chair of the board and former piano professor at Wesleyan. The Hightower grand, in the Benson Room, was restored with gifts from the Morning Music Club, alumnae, and the college.**

Fickling, who returned to piano performance five years ago after raising a family, has recently played duets and two-piano performances with Eikner at Sea Island and in Atlanta.

She is also featured with Eikner on his recent compact disc, "Serenade" (see Campus Notes in this issue).

## Art: Bringing the world to Wesleyan

Students in Wesleyan's art department have learned a great deal about different media and styles from the exhibits and gallery talks of visiting artists. A full schedule of exhibitions, including "Chicago Meets Georgia" (featuring works from both regions), collages and paintings by Georgia State professor Larry Walker, and a mixed media installation by Atlanta artist Isabell Daniel, has been coordinated by Assistant Professor Robin Starbuck. "Through the shows, our students become acquainted with types of art they may not have ever considered: performance, installation, different kinds of sculpture. Their own creativity is challenged, and they are in turn inspired to tackle new things in their own work."

Students are indeed undertaking a variety of projects. Six seniors are preparing theses, which will be presented at the

senior exhibition in April: Amy Benson, painting; Chi Ezekwueche, painting and printmaking; Beth Hodges, painting and performance; Norma Sue McGarr, painting, photography, and collage; Jennifer Price, painting and sculpture; and Jennifer Scott, photographic installation. Their show, entitled "Signatures," opens Monday, April 22.

Raquel Farrell, a senior art history major, has been examining the use of the "modest Venus" pose (think of Botticelli's famous painting) from antiquity to the present. She is working on the project as part of a senior capstone course under Assistant Professor Libby Bailey. "Our students are grappling with social issues, not just making pictures," said Art Werger, chair of the department and head of the fine arts division. "They are learning to incorporate art into the larger scope of liberal arts—discovering that meaning is not isolated."

Of course, students do get a traditional foundation in studio courses; following a core of design, beginning drawing, and figure drawing, they may choose from higher-level classes in graphic design, painting, printmaking, photography, figurative sculpture, and ceramics. They draw from the life model from the very beginning of their studies.

But their explorations are taking them into new ground, too. Computers have found as firm a foothold in the art studio these days as in the business classroom. Students who plan on careers in graphic design realize the necessity of mastering computer applications that have become the lingua franca of the field, such as PageMaker and FreeHand. They have also begun to look at the computer-generated

or manipulated image as a medium in itself, whether static or animated.

A program called Poser helps students visualize human anatomy and movement in a way that used to be done with a mannikin. Although Poser can't take the place of the life model, it can prove a valuable tool in preliminary studies and in experimenting with "what if?" Werger notes that "Poser can make the human figure do things it could never do in the physical world—but it also helps artists envision the effects of different lighting conditions, different angles, a series of movements."

The basis, nevertheless, is in observing the real world—a concept that applies to career strategies just as it does to drawing and painting. This spring semester, students had some



Papermaking workshop with Sally Johnson

excellent opportunities to observe and participate. Sally Johnson presented a workshop in papermaking. In February, artist Isabell Daniel spoke to visitors about the nature of her work "The Necessity of Memory," which dealt with themes of recent conflicts around the world and the effects of these conflicts on victims and survivors. Students have gained valuable experience as interns in local firms; Beth Hodges won an ADDY award in the Central Georgia competition Feb. 24, as did Jennifer Shermer '95 for her work with the Bright Ideas Group in Macon.

The art department hopes for even greater community participation in the future. Wesleyan's three galleries feature nine shows each year, with a wide range of regional and national offerings. Starbuck reminds students and community members of the wonderful experi-



ences Wesleyan provides: "The exhibition series is one of the things we do that brings the world to them."

## Convocations: Growing together intellectually

The Convocation series is yet another way of bringing the world to the Wesleyan campus. Internationally renowned lecturers, visiting performers, and thought-provoking films give the campus community opportunities to grow together intellectually. Most Convocation events are also open to the public.

This winter and spring, the All-Campus events included lectures by Yolanda King, daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; by Dr. Elna Green on "the Woman Suffrage Question"; and by Dr. Harold Katner, world authority on AIDS. Lula Washington's L.A. Contemporary Dance Theatre presented "It's a Woman's Thing"—well-timed for Black History Month and Women's History Month—and the Shenandoah Shakespeare Express returned to campus with its production of "Henry V."

The film series is a new addition to the Convocation slate. According to Assistant Professor Julia Matthews, chair of the programs and exhibitions committee, the films are selected to showcase monthly themes. February's "African-American Women," for instance, featured "Daughters of the Dust" and documentaries about authors Alice Walker and Toni Morrison; April's "Movie Lover's

Film Festival" will include such classics as "Breakfast at Tiffany's." A special series on the Holocaust included "Shoah," "Au Revoir, Les Enfants," and "Europa, Europa."

In January, the Katharine Paynes Carnes lecture series brought award-winning children's author Virginia Hamilton to campus. Hamilton read from her works on Jan. 24 in the Burden Parlor, discussing the genesis of Caldecott medal winner "Her Stories" and reading tales such as "Catskinella," a folk version of the Cinderella story. "The past is like an unpublished book, with many unwritten chapters, from all corners of the world and all ethnic groups," Hamilton said. She answered many questions from the audience, and then patiently signed books for a long line of students, faculty, and visitors—a process she repeated for her convocation audience the next day.

## Theatre: Contrasts and connections

Theatre director Julia Matthews is intent on providing a broad spectrum of experiences to her students. In late April, the department will produce Canadian playwright Ann-Marie MacDonald's "Shakespearean adventure" "Goodnight

Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)," a fast-paced and witty tale of a struggling scholar who finds herself transported into the worlds of "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet."

Matthews, who has been spending one weekend a month at the Folger Library in Washington, D.C., as part of an NEH-funded program to study Shakespeare in performance, may find MacDonald's play quite a departure from traditional perceptions of Shakespeare.

But Matthews is no stranger to artistic risk. In bringing together the short plays of Pearl Cleage ("Late Bus to Mecca") and Barbara

Lebow ("The Beast") on the studio theatre stage Feb. 15–17, she addressed timely questions of homelessness and social ostracism. Matthews and her students were able to work closely with both playwrights (coincidentally both 1996 finalists for the prestigious Susan Smith Blackburn prize).

Cleage, whose new play "Blues for an Alabama Sky" will be performed during the Cultural Olympiad preceding the 1996 Olympic Games, served a one-week residency here in early February. With Cleage's guidance, Deshaun M. Smith and Chastity Y. McWilliams presented excellent performances in "Mecca."

Lebow's experience with Wesleyan drama students has been more extended. A veteran of short-term residencies in community and university theatre programs, Lebow took on the new challenge of a semester-long class in playwriting here. "I am enjoying the class as much as they are. The ideas coming out of these students are like radio serials, with such diverse viewpoints. When they read one another's work aloud, it's like switching stations—each one is a different format."

Many of the students approached the course with doubts about their ability to write, especially under a teacher who counts an Emmy and four published



Lebow (center) and students



Author Virginia Hamilton signs books in Candler.

**Hamilton on folk tales:**  
"The past is like an unpublished book, with many unwritten chapters, from all corners of the world and all ethnic groups."

*Continued on page 24*



# 100 YEARS

For more than 30 years Dr. Warren Gignilliat, Jr., professor of English, presented the STUNT trophy. The senior Golden Heart class, four-time winners of the STUNT cup, retired the second STUNT trophy (center) in 1971, in honor of "Dr. Gin," who had retired in 1963 but presented the award several times afterward. The third cup, pictured lower right, is still in use. The Spirit Cup is on the lower left.

*Behold the footlights, soften glow  
Behold the stage, the space below;  
Where silent watchers breathless wait  
With bated breath the hero's fate.*

*Across a fairy tale trip-trip—  
Come dainty chorus' light skip  
The villain, curling beard and all,  
Plots to cause the hero's fall.*

*All nations, clans and types and kinds,  
The children of brave genius mind—  
The glorious times of all the year.  
Once again—Stunt night is here.*

—D. MacKay

*The Watchtower, Oct. 21, 1926*

by Beth Kargel

**O**VER THE YEARS when the curtains have opened, the crowds have silenced, and the STUNT performances have begun, audiences have witnessed the results of the time and talents of countless Wesleyan students. The time-honored tradition of student-written and directed performances has evolved into an evening anticipated by friends, family, alumnae and the Macon community.

Though we celebrate this year the 100th anniversary of STUNT, the tradition did not actually become an annual event until the 1920s. In the '20s, six performances were presented each year: one from each of the four classes, as well as one from the Conservatory students and one from the Macon Girls' Association (day students). The event was originally called Class Day, then College Night; in 1927, the name was officially



# of STUNT





changed to STUNT night. The event also initially took place early in the school year, but in 1946 was moved to spring semester.

Today, though the performances are held in the spring, much of the behind the scenes work begins in the fall semester. As early as October, each classe meets, elects members to its committee, and charges the committee with the task of creating an original one-act musical production. Committees work with members of the Council on Religious Concerns and a panel of faculty members to fine-tune their work and minimize duplication of ideas among classes. Committee members also select popular songs and rewrite the lyrics to accompany their script.

The whole process, spanning several months, is accomplished covertly. This was the case as far back as 1923, when a member of the Watchtower staff noted, "The program for this annual affair is shrouded in a deep dark mystery, and one

## STUNT 1996: "Oh, What a Night!"

The Centennial STUNT celebration featured entertaining, creative STUNTS from each of the four classes. On Friday, March 1, students packed the auditorium for the opportunity to see the faculty in a new light. Faculty Follies kicked off the festivities with a skit that featured a pie fight, as well as a guitar duel between faculty members Marco Fatuzzo, assistant professor of physics, and John Rakestraw, associate professor of philosophy and religion. In a spoof of a current beer commercial, Assistant Professor of Psychology Jim Rowan told President Ackerman, "I love you, man." Ackerman replied, "Jim, you are not getting my parking space."

More excitement was in store on Saturday night, March 2. Alumnae Gloria Boyette Price '60, Margaret Duckworth Sewell '49, and Tyrene House Neil '89 presented memories of STUNT. Current students had prepared a display of costumes from past STUNTS.

The Golden Heart first-year class presented a Christmas-themed performance in which a department store was held up by Santa's little helper, referred to as "Barbie in spandex." Sophomore Jessica Akins of Brandon, Fla., stole the STUNT night spotlight with her performance as axe-toting Brunhelga in the Purple Knights' island tale, blending elements of "Lil' Abner," "The Mayor of Casterbridge," and "The Taming of the Shrew."

In the third performance of the evening, the Pirate juniors presented the filming of a classy Hollywood movie gone awry due to interference from ghosts of the original cast. Finishing the evening's competition, the Green Knight seniors flipped burgers and made their way up the corporate ladder at "Big Phil's Burger Mill."

Following the STUNT performances, scholarships were awarded to 11 rising seniors in the Pirate class. Then, the Sprit Cup (presented by Cathy Snow '71 and Gena Roberts Franklin '71) was awarded to the juniors. This was the first time in 12 years that the Pirates had received this honor. The evening concluded with the presentation of the 1996 STUNT cup to the seniors by Pat Hardeman '68. The selection was based on the efforts of the GK cast combined with an outstanding backdrop and authentic costuming. The seniors' finale had proclaimed, "Oh, What a Night!"; what a night it was for their class, and for all those celebrating the 100th STUNT Night at Wesleyan College.



*Above: STUNT 1996, with a theme of "Deep Fried Fun," was dedicated to music professor Fletcher Anderson.*



class does not know what the other class is doing... But from what can be gathered by secret meetings and practicings, everything is going to be 'A Grand Surprise'" (Sept. 29, 1923).

In recent years, the committees' efforts have been revealed to their respective classes at STUNT Reading. After the reading, each class has a mere three weeks to audition and cast its play, as well as acquire costumes. Rehearsals only take place for two of those weeks before it is showtime in Porter Auditorium. This is a far cry from the procedure in the '40s and '50s when practices lasted for six weeks and the performances took place in the gym! Yet, STUNTS have always been pulled together on very small budgets.

Past STUNTS have presented portrayals of life in the future, parodies of life at Wesleyan, or stories dealing with current social issues; often the STUNTS are comedic. Eunice Thompson '25 (alumnae director from 1947 to 1952) wrote or helped write STUNTS for her class from 1923 to 1925. One of Thompson's poems was accepted by the American Anthology of College Verse, and one of

her STUNTS was published by the Eldridge Entertainment House. Entitled "Hector the Hired Man," or "Stand or Stumble," the story followed the upward struggle of Hector, the hero, who went from hoeing peas for Squire Squeeze to possessing a bank (and the banker's daughter!). In 1940, the Gold class made 2,560 tulips, a windmill, and authentic

**"...from what can  
be gathered by  
secret meetings and  
practicings, every-  
thing is going to be  
'A Grand Surprise' "**

Dutch costumes, but still did not win the contest. Instead, another class won with a takeoff of "Gone with the Wind." According to Tena Roberts '60, "The simplest STUNTS always won... they were easier for the judges to catch on to."

What began as a form of recreation has become a heated competition. Two coveted cups are the focus of much energy during the weeks preceding STUNT. The classes strive not only to present a polished performance and to show lots of spirit. In 1922, the first STUNT trophy was presented to the freshman Purple Knight class; it was retired in 1963 when there was no more room to inscribe the names of winning classes. It has been estimated that during the 33 years preceding this year's STUNT the Pirates have won six times, the Green Knights eight, and the Golden Hearts nine. The Purple Knights lead the race thus far with 10 wins.

The Spirit Cup was added around 1970. Prior to this year, it has been awarded to the Pirates and Purple Knights five times each; the Golden Hearts are eight-time winners. The GKs lead in Spirit Cup competition with 10 wins. (The cup was shared between the GHs and GKs in 1980 and the PKs and GKs in 1994.) There have been nine years in which the same class swept the awards, winning both Spirit and STUNT: 1974—GKs; 1975—PKs; 1976—PKs; 1977—Pirates;

1979—GHs;  
1980—GKs;  
1983—  
Pirates;  
1987—GKs;  
1994—PKs;  
and 1995—  
GKs.

The STUNT judges are most often people from the community who have a knowledge of music, theatre and



*The Class of 1971 won the STUNT cup for all four of their years at Wesleyan. In 1970 their STUNT featured charge cards and a loan shark, known as "The Loan Ranger," who swung in on a rope.*





art. Spirit is judged by a group of appointed students. The judges make their selections based on Saturday evening's performance, although the Thursday and Friday "dress rehearsals" have been open to audiences during the past few years as the show's popularity has grown. On STUNT night, after the completion of all four performances, students wait for the judges to tally their votes and announce the winners. Generally, the presenting faculty members drag out the suspense of the process and the students squirm with anticipation as they wait in the aisles. The faculty also gets involved and shows support of student efforts on the Friday night preceding Saturday's STUNT night with a tribute known as "Faculty Follies."

**It is 'winning,'  
whether your name is  
on the cup or not. It is  
one of the fondest  
memories any  
Wesleyanne will  
ever have."**

Throughout its history, one important element of STUNT has remained unchanged. From its beginnings, STUNT was a fundraiser. It was originally connected to the YWCA, a religious organization replaced by today's CRC. Currently, STUNT proceeds fund scholarships for rising seniors. As STUNT has grown, so has the size of the scholarships and the number of recipients. Students are awarded STUNT scholarships based on their campus involvement, as well as their participation in and commitment to the ideals of STUNT.




*The seniors won second place in 1956 with this parody of the Old South, while the sophomores won with an entomological STUNT featuring Eartha Worm and Gnat King Cole.*



*Left: The Green Knight seniors of 1988 "popped 'til they dropped" in their winning STUNT, which portrayed an agency's struggle to develop an advertising campaign for "Fruity-Pop Popcorn." The popcorn had four class-color flavors: lime, cherry, grape and lemon.*

the Class of 1939: "Our STUNT was good, but unappreciated; still we proved a point or so."

Though the contest has now encompassed a hundred years of performances and memories, some STUNT experiences are universal. STUNT provides a chance to get to know classmates better and discover new talents. It remains a special experience for those who take part. Prayers whispered in the stairwell and cheers screamed in the aisles are experiences unique to Wesleyan STUNT—as is the race to get off stage and into the auditorium. And nearly every class has had the valuable experience of losing gracefully. This feeling was aptly expressed by

"What is STUNT? It is secrets, work, fun, worry, paint-stained clothes, laughter, aching bodies, songs, enthusiasm, unity, hope, lost sleep. It is 'winning,' whether your name is on the cup or not. It is one of the fondest memories any Wesleyanne will ever have." (From the Times and Challenge, March 16, 1963) Though not everyone claims a cup on STUNT night, all of Wesleyan can share in the celebration of the centennial of this rich tradition. 



*"State of the Arts," continued from page 19*

plays among her credits. Starting with "eavesdropping" exercises to build a sensitivity to dialogue and moving gradually into character development, however, they have become at ease in a style of writing unlike anything they've done before.

"Each of the ten class members has completed a ten-minute play already," said Lebow. "They will perform these later in the term, and by the end of the semester each student will have written a longer one-act play."

In addition to supervising the playwriting class, Lebow had several days to work with the cast of "The Beast." The play—actually the second half of a duet called "Trains"—deals with two homeless men, each with a different perspective on his situation. Lebow and Matthews at first entertained the idea of revising the script to feature two women instead, but found that that changed the point of the play entirely. So they cast the women in the roles, relying on the power of suggestion, rather than any attempt to imitate deeper voices, to make the characters believable. "The audience laughed, and they were tense, in the same spots as when the play was performed by men," Lebow noted. "The young women got the emotional essence of the characters, and that was all they needed to be convincing."

Like "The Beast"'s Dennis and Harvey, Wesleyan students have come to understand the need to connect in some way with the world around them, and with other people. Learning has become an intersection—of the minds of protégée with artist, of college

with community, of theory with practice. And, in Lebow's case, of experienced teacher with young student, in a symbiotic relationship. "There's something I get selfishly out of working with students at this age. I'm pleasantly surprised—no, let me say *thrilled*—with the profundity of their ideas." ■



*"The Beast": final moments*



## A Tribute to the Retiring Dean

**N**o one who knows Carole O. Brown would ever describe her as "retiring." But in the other sense of the word—"to leave one's position or occupation"—that's what Brown will be doing at the end of this academic year. The Wesleyan community bids her goodbye with a sincere appreciation for all she has done over the past six years as dean of the college.

"Carole has strengthened the institution significantly by focusing the academic program," said Associate Dean Priscilla Danheiser. Brown's leadership has resulted in the inception of the college's first graduate degree program. In the highly successful First-Year Seminars. In a greatly increased level of student interest in math and science, and visibility for Wesleyan in those areas.

The faculty recognize her diligence and initiative. Del Crisp, professor of English and chair of the Humanities Division, pointed out that "in her six years here, Carole Brown has emphasized Wesleyan's mission as a liberal arts college for women by hiring a number of faculty trained in the new scholarship on women; by developing innovative programs and securing grants to support them; by encouraging faculty-student research; and by strengthening the connections among curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular life."

Brown will retire at the end of the school year, July 1, 1996. She plans to spend time with her husband, David—a physician who also intends to retire this year—in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and in London. Her level of energy and dedication to Wesleyan will be missed.

"We wish for Carole Brown a wonderful retirement," said President Bob Ackerman. "Her years at Wesleyan have been ones of great progress in the academic program. I am confident that the college faculty and academic program, as they now stand, represent a quality unmatched in the history of this grand old institution. Carole has played a significant role of leadership in this regard—for which we are indeed grateful. We shall continue this good work to achieve an even greater margin of excellence in the future."

Thank you, Carole, for pushing us to expand that margin.





# WESLEYAN

## *At a Glance*

• Wesleyan College, founded in 1836, is the first college in the world chartered to grant degrees to women.

• Wesleyan is a four-year liberal arts institution for women, affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

• For six consecutive years, U.S. News and World Report ranked Wesleyan "one of the top regional liberal arts colleges in the nation." The college has been reclassified as a Liberal Arts I College and is now ranked as a national, rather than regional, college.

• Approximately 500 students attend Wesleyan, representing more than 20 states and 17 foreign countries. The student body includes 26 percent minority and international students.

• In the past two years, Wesleyan's first-year class enrollment has increased

24 percent. The number of first-year students intending to major in the sciences has risen to 37 percent.

• A large percentage of Wesleyan graduates applying to medical school, law school, and MBA programs are accepted. Wesleyan's education majors enjoy 100 percent placement in teaching positions.

• The Encore Program provides a supportive environment for the non-traditional age student returning to college.

• Wesleyan provides cultural events and cultural opportunities through Wesleyan College Center for the Arts. MidSummer Macon has education classes, camps, and performances in all the arts for ages 8 to 82 on the Wesleyan campus.

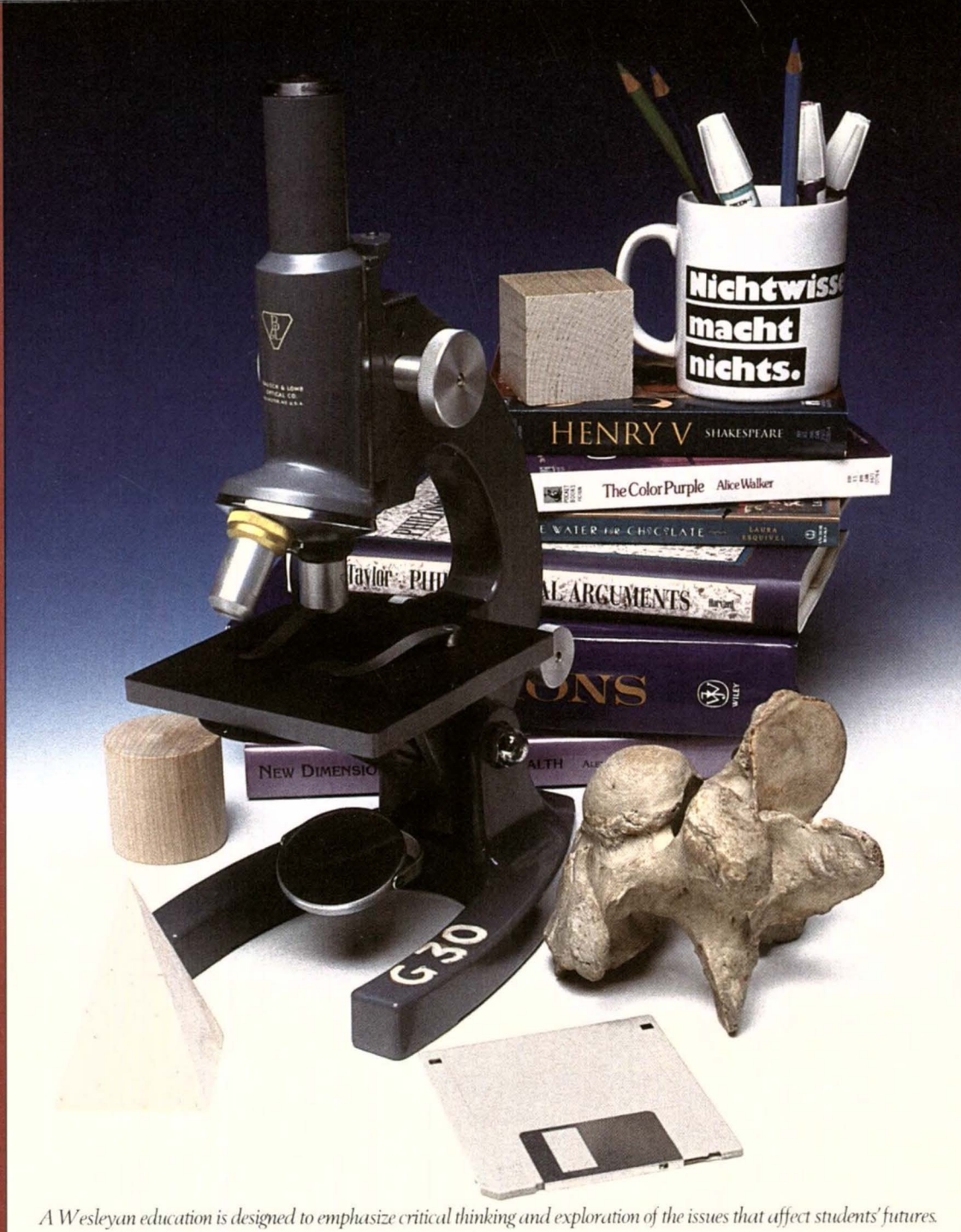
• Wesleyan fields four NCAA Division III intercollegiate teams: soccer,

volleyball, basketball, and tennis. The college also has an intercollegiate equestrian team, in addition to intramural athletics.

• Wesleyan offers several special programs including: First-Year Seminar; an honors program; the Computer Focus program, through which every full-time student receives a Macintosh computer; international study; certificate in business management; dual-degree programs; and internship and mentor programs.

• Wesleyan's 200-acre wooded campus includes 15 Georgian-style red brick buildings; a lake; tennis courts; a soccer field; jogging trails; a gymnasium with pool, weight room, and fitness center; a 1,100-seat auditorium with art galleries and one of the largest pipe organs in the Southeast; a library with over 133,000 volumes; an equestrian center, and a three-hole golf course.





*A Wesleyan education is designed to emphasize critical thinking and exploration of the issues that affect students' futures.*

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